



# **HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **MEDIA ALERT**

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: 6.20.2005**

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## **HFD PARTICIPATES IN NATIONWIDE "STAND DOWN"**

**WHAT:** Press Conference with Fire Chief Phil Boriskie about HFD's participation in the Nationwide "Stand Down" and recently purchased equipment to better protect our firefighters.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, June 21, 2005 @ 11:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Fire Station 6 @ 3402 Washington

**DETAILS:** In response to an alarmingly high number of Line of Duty Deaths in the U.S. during January – April, 2005, the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) is calling for all fire departments across the country to "stand down" from non-emergency duties on June 21, and continue the "stand down" until all work shifts have been covered.

The purpose of the "stand down" is to raise firefighter awareness of the need for increased vigilance toward safety and impress on members that the fire service cannot continue to do business as usual when so many of our own are dying in the line-of-duty.

To help ensure that "Everybody Goes Home", the Houston Fire Department, in conjunction with the IAFC, the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, the United States Fire Administration and at least 14 additional organizations will "stand down" on June 21, 22, 24, and 25 to cover all four shifts.